

FROM THE FIELD.

Pacifics.

My last communication ended with the narration of a dream; this will open with the statement of some facts, which, I hope, will have their weight on the side of righteousness.

The old year is past and we have entered on the actualities of another, 1889, which, too, will soon pass away. Whatever the record of past years may contain for or against us, it is important if we would make this the best year of our lives, that we commence now and improve the moments faithfully as they come to us. We may not live to the end of this year, but if we do right in the sight of God and men, mankind will be benefitted, God will be glorified, and we will be blessed either by life or by death.

My name no more appears as Editor of the EVANGELIST. Why should it? That was only an arrangement to indicate that the parties concerned were ready to accede to the expressed wish of the last Ashland Conference with reference to the Brethren Publishing House and the paper. I was an editor only nominally, and, under existing circumstances, I could be no more. It is true the chair was offered to me, but considerations that I need not name prevented me from accepting and filling it. So far as I know, my relations to the active editor and manager, and all others concerned, were and are pleasant and pacific, and so, I hope and pray, they may ever remain; but I want to say to all, that I feel better now than I did when I held a nominal position, which, at the distance I was from the office, and with my limited authority, I could not fill aright. I feel that it is better for me, better for the business, and better for all, to have it as it is. And now, as a final word on this subject, I will say that I am ready, and if I continue to enjoy life and other necessary blessings, I will hold myself in a state of readiness, to take the position of editor and publisher, as soon as the paper and publishing house become the property of the church; provided, however, that this should take place within a reasonable time. But now, and until that time comes, I am only a contributor, correspondent, and agent; and as such, I will do my all I can for the good work.

As a correspondent, I will tell you that Lathrop had a Christmas ship, and Altamont had a tree. I had intended to be at the latter, but could not be there. My wife, Mrs. Hannah E. Beer was there, and in fact, was there a week beforehand, to assist in arranging the tree and in training the little folks in singing and speech-making for the occasion. But although I was not there, I had brethren and sisters and kind friends who were there and who remembered me. I got my sack of sweet things, and my part of the silver that filled the pretty porte-monnaie that was given to my wife. Our warmest thanks are returned to the donors, and we hope that God will bless them with richer gifts than silver and gold. We have but few members at Altamont, but Bro. Perret's of Pasadena, in southern Cal., sent to Bro. Wm. Shank, Superintendent of the Altamont Sunday-school a box of oranges, candies, and trimmings for the tree; and then we have a number Christian

friends, mostly Welch people, of whom I might name Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Tomas, Mr. Mrs. Owens, Mr. Moss, and some others who took a very active part as they do in every good work. It is to be hoped that this Christmas tree may bear still richer fruits and gifts in the future for time and eternity.

I am glad that Ashland University is ours. I am not very excitable, but when I read the good news, I shouted, "Glory, Glory! Hallelujah!" Now the danger is over, and it will be an easy matter to pay off the little debt. I feel like suggesting to the proper managers to keep out good agents to make a thorough canvas, and then set apart a day, sometime in the future, for the expressed purpose of praying and working for the school. Decoration day, May 30th which is Ascension day, would be a good time; or Independence day, July 4th, would be good. But let them fix on some day, far enough in the future to have it well advertised and its importance sufficiently emphasized, and I am sure that a great work can be done. God will hear our earnest prayers, and will bless a harmonious effort.

With this suggestion I close, hoping that whatever may be done, 1889 will pay off the debt, and even lay a foundation for endowment.

J. W. BEER.

San Joaquin City, Cal., Jan. '89.

Indiana Mission.

The following is the report of the amount of money received by the Indiana Mission Board to Jan. 1st:

By collection at state conference	\$10.26
Church at Monroeville	2.55
" " Sweet Home	8.00
" " North Manchester	5.00
Church " Sidney	3.00
" " Indian Creek	.50
" " Dunlaps	2.00
Total	\$31.31

The amount of work done thus far in this direction is surprisingly small, and the amount of money on hand is correspondingly small. The result strikes a blow of disappointment to those who hoped for better things. As can be seen, there is scarcely enough money in the treasury to justify the board in sending our evangelist into the field, unless relief comes from other sources.

The weeks and months go by, and we wait, apparently with idle hands, careless of our responsibilities, thoughtless of the interests of our church. For what do we wait? For some one to begin? Then wait no longer, but let us all urge forward the work, each doing his own duty, and the result will be most gratifying.

If your minister has failed to urge the importance of this work request him to do so at once. If you have not appointed solicitors in your congregation, do so, and instruct them to begin canvassing. If those solicitors that you have appointed are not working, let me urge you to begin at once. Delay no longer, for much is depending upon you. And all you who have money for the Mission do not wait, but send at once to the treasurer.

If love of Christ does not prompt you to take a strong interest in His cause and to do all you are able to do, then pray let pride influence you. Pride in the

church of your choice, sufficient to wish to see it gain in number and strength that will enable it to stand side by side with sister churches.

A small sacrifice on the part of every member in Indiana would accomplish much good. We beg you, dear brethren and sisters, be not unmindful of your duty and your privilege to do God's work. We must not let Indiana fall behind in the ranks. It will require an unselfish effort on the part of us all to get the work started this first year; but if we can keep our evangelist in the field a few months, by another year we can have many more to help us. No better man than Bro. Swihart could have been chosen for the purpose, for his success in winning souls to Christ is proverbial. He can do us a vast amount of good, but he must be supported.

The measure of the aggressive zeal of the church is the true measure of its vitality. The vigor of our attacks upon sin proves the healthfulness of our religious enthusiasm. Nothing but untiring energy will rouse the people from their indifference and influence them to meet their obligations. There can be no better investment of time, money and eloquence than in making us feel our duty to the unconverted, as well as to ourselves. The continual shirking of our responsibilities will require limitless volumes of fervor to rouse us from our indifference.

All that is good, beautiful and pure in our lives comes to us through Jesus the Christ. Will we not, for His sake, for His love, give our money, our time, our influence to this, His work? May God help us to comprehend that our tenure of the great blessings He has given us depends upon our unselfish efforts to help others to a like precious faith. Let us sacrifice to the Lord that which cost us something, and not rest till every member in the church is awake to his responsibility.

The following are the solicitors reported thus far: For Oakville, Mr. Laffery Hale, Mrs. Frances Miller, Mrs. Sarah Holsinger. For South Bend, Mrs. E. M. Sigerfoose. For Fairview Chapel Mrs. Susan Frame. For College Corners, Anna Harvey, Frank Kurtz, Elmer Stewart.

H. HELEN FRAME, Sec.

La Paz, Ind.

As previously stated, J. H. Palmer came to this place to hold a short series of meetings. He arrived on the 24th, of Dec., and began with a good interest. But rain soon interfered. But still they came with lanterns in hand until we had good congregations, considering the inclement weather. Then the sad news came to Bro. Palmer that his wife was very sick. He at once started for her bedside and that put a stop to the meeting at once, and all we could do was to extend to them our sympathy, and pray earnestly to God to raise her up speedily, which he did (praise his name) so he might resume his labor. On the 2nd, of Jan., 1889, he again started for this place, but failed to make rail-road connection. But like a true follower of Jesus he started on foot, with grip sack in hand, a distance of eleven miles, and reached my place by 6 o'clock, same evening, very tired and

weary, yet willing to preach. I said no, you must rest tonight. On the following evening he resumed his labor with renewed zeal. The news spread rapidly that he was here, the people came again to hear the gospel, the interest deepened, then more rain and mud, and finally a real blizzard. Then we had to close. Bro. Palmer had to go to other fields. Though we had no accessions, some were near the kingdom, and we hope and pray that the hindrances that were in the way may be removed. Taking all in all we had a good meeting. Bro. Palmer will be gratefully remembered by all who heard him, for he labored earnestly and faithfully while here. Come again, dear brother.

We solicit the earnest prayers of the faithful.

S. C. HOSTETLER.

Milledgeville, Ill.

In returning home from Sabbath School today I was wondering why so many schools close in the fall. We had a good turnout today here on the prairie and why could not other schools be run all the year round too. I can see no reasonable excuse east of the Dakota line. Up there at the north pole where Bro. J. H. Worst holds forth, where people have to hole in like old bruin there may be an excuse and a lawful one, but in this country there is none. It is like putting away our winter stoves in the spring. If we are not very careful it will rust and when we get the pipe down from the loft it will not fit and it takes a little time and aggravation till we get the stove running. So with a school that is locked up in a napkin five months in a year. You not only lose the four or five months you have locked the school up, but you lose one month in re-organizing and getting the school in running order. Now we can go to town and attend to all our worldly affairs the year through. Why not do something that is of vast more importance. Who knows but some seed may be sown some cold winter day in the Sabbath School that may spring up some day and bring forth fruit to the glory of God. I sometimes think we are looking too much to our own conveniences and pleasure.

Now I make this bold assertion: if the officers and teachers of a Sabbath School attend regular, as they do at Bethlehem school, they will have a good school the year round if the mercury gets a little below zero sometimes. Now you Sunday School workers try it. Be punctual. Go at it with a will and don't say a word about closing when fall comes, and the result will be a good attendance the year around.

A. J. BLOUGH.

Jan. 13, 1889.

Brighton, Ind.

I arrived at this place yesterday and expect to begin meeting tonight. I am considerably behind with my work, but if the brethren will be patient I will get around by and by. I say this especially for the brethren at West Alexandria, O.

Our meeting at Campbell, Mich., was a good one, and will no doubt be remembered for a long time by many who were made willing to accept of Christ

as their Saviour. We had twenty-six confessions, and two by relation. On Monday, Jan. 14th, we went to the river and baptized eighteen, and the remaining eight Bro. Winey will baptize soon. The Campbell class now numbers eighty-three, counting the woodland class, which I organized as a branch of the Campbell class. There is no doubt at all but that others will come and increase the number to 100 or more before another year rolls around.

My correspondents will address me at Brighton, Ind., until further notice.

ISAAC KILHEFNER.

Jan. 18, '89.

OUR CHURCH.

Sister M. M. Sterling is on the sick list.

If you have not a copy of the Annual please send for one at once. Price ten cents.

Eld. S. A. Leedy, who spent the fall and winter in Ohio, has returned to his home, at Montevallo, Mo.

Bro. I. D. Bowman will preach at North Liberty, and at Ankenytown, Ohio, next Lord's Day.

Bro. J. H. Tombaugh is arranging for a series of meetings at the Fairview church Fayette Co., Ohio.

Eld. W. J. H. Bauman, is again in Missouri at work. We are looking for a report of the Ohio visit Bro. B.

Church items are few this week. Brethren, write and tell us where you are and what is being done for the Lord.

Eld. John Nicholson, is longing to go among the churches again as a revivalist, a work in which he has been very successful in the past.

The Sister's Society, of the Fair Haven church, Wayne Co., Ohio, is doing good work in soliciting subscriptions for the EVANGELIST.

Bro. S. H. Bashor is now at Flora, Ind., and from there he will go to Mexico, Ind. His correspondents will address him at Mexico until further notice.

Bro. Michael Tomas, of the New Enterprise church, near Roann, Ind. gave us a call last week. He reports that church work is progressing in his locality.

Bro. Josiah Keim is having a crowded house at Winchester, church, Ohio, which is in the Miami Valley. A good work of peace making has been done there, thank the Lord.

Bro. Isaac Ross, of Buckey, City, Ohio, says: 'Bro. J. Allen Miller will begin a series of meetings for us on the 21st. We expect a good meetings, as every thing is moving along nicely at present'.

Our meeting at Johnstown resulted in nineteen conversions; seventeen additions, fifteen by baptism, two by relation, one was not ready to be baptized, the other was hindered by her parents. Will write a letter next week.—J. D. McFaden.

Bro. W. C. Perry is holding a protracted meeting at the Enterprise church, near Roann, Ind. He has the habit of working away, and saying very little about it. It is well for a man's work to speak for him, but it does not always speak here.

Bro. John Kurtz, of Williamsport, Dakota, who visited us last week, informed us that Bro. J. H. Worst preaches occasionally in the locality of his home, and is well liked by the people. Bro. Worst is still County Superintendent of the schools.

The happiness of love is in action; its test is what one is willing to do for others.—Ben Hur.